ous process. An advisory council on Public Distribution System has been constituted in which the Ministers in charge of Food and Civil Supplies in State Governments and U.T. Administrations are members. The demands made by the States, inter-sc requirements of States/ U.Ts and seasonal factors are taken into consideration while making allocations of PDS commodities.

The total subsidy borne by the Government on the distribution of foodgrains are as under:—

Year	Consumer subsidy per quintal)		Carrying cost of foodgrains	Total subsidy of FCI on foodgrains
	Rice	Wheat	(Rs./ quintal)	(Rs. in crores)
1989-90	124.23	106.90	52.77	2476*
1990-91	109.03	104.54	61.68	2450*
1991-92	127.67	120.52	81.38	2850
1992-93	78.95	156.68	87.50	2500

(B.E.)

*including sugar

Continuous efforts are made by Central and State Governments to keep administrative overhead of distribution of PDS commodities under control through improved management of the System.

District consumer formus

2639. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) how many districts in the country do not have district consumer forums;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take inthis regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) Of the 452 districts, the District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forums (District Forums) have started functioning in 447 districts. In the remaining 5 Districts in Meghalaya, the Forums have been notified but have not started functioning. A new district has been formed recently in Arunachal Pradesh for which also approval has been given for constituting the Forms.

(c) The Government of Meghalaya has been requested to make the Formus functional immediately and the matter is being pursued with them.

Damand and supply of edible oil

2640. DR. NAR REDDY THULAST REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated gap in the demand and supply of indigenousedible oil during theoil year 1992-93; and

(c) what steps arc proposed to be taken to meet this gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN):(a) The estimated gap in the demand and supply of indigenous edible oil during the oil year 1992-93, based on the project oilseeds production and the projected demand of edible oils in the country is expected to be around 5 lakh MTs.

(b) (i) Import edible oil if the availability and prices of domestic oils so warrant;

(ii) Vigorously pursue the steps taken to increase the production, of edible oils in the country so as to reduce the gap between demand and supplyof indigenous edible oils. Stepstaken so far are

1. Two centrally sponsored schemes namelyNational oilseeds Development Projects (NDDP) and Oilseeds Production Thrust Projects (OPTP) which were operating till 1989-90 have been merged during 1990-91 intoa single scheme, namely. Oilseeds Production Programmes (OPP). This scheme provides essential assistance to the States for production

and distribution of qualioty seeds, Plant Protection measures including suply of Plant Protection chemicals and equipments and Orgnising demonstration of advanced technology, with particular reference to mustard, groundnut, soyabean and sunflower.

2. Supporting Oilseeds Projects of the NDDB.

3. A Technology Mission on Oilseeds was cstablisshed in May, 1986 for harnessing the best of production, processing and management technologies.

4. Intensification of research efforts for increasing the production of oilseeds.

5. Increasing the areas under non-traditional oilseeds crops like soyabean and sunflower and expoitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin, rice bran etc.

6. Setting up of necessary processing and infrastructural facilities to keep pace with the production programme of oilseeds.

7. Assistance for oil palm development.

8. Better incentive to producers through fixation of minimum support prices of major oilseeds.

9. Identification of equipments for modernisation of processing units, custom duty concession of imports of certain equipments.

10. Funding research and development programmes undertaken by various Institutions forfuller exploitation of oil from oil bearing materials.

Purchase of vans by unemployed youths under P.D.S.

2641. SHRI RA JUBHAI A. PARAM:
SHARIMATI VEEN VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a scheme to given loans to unemployed youth to enable them to purchase vans under a modified door delivery system of essential commodities under the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the number of unemployed youths to be employed under thescheme; and

(c) what are the other details of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Central Government provides financial assistanceto the State Governments/UT Administrations for purchase of vans to be used either as mobile Fair Price Shops or for door delivery of PDS Commodities to the Fair Price Shops. The Scheme is meant for all the areas identifioed for the Revamped PDS as well as for other remote and inacossible areas. The assistance is limited to Rs. 4.00 lakhs per van and consists of 50% grant and 50% loan.

Vanaspati production in the country

2642. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's atention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in the Economic Times dated the 24th October, 1992, stating that there is an excess installed capacityfor Vanaspati production in the country and yet more new units are in the pipeline and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Goverrnment are aware that world-wide, there disa change over to liquid vegetable oils which eliminates contamination of Vanaspati with ikel and other contaminents; and

(c) whether the Government would encourag. switchever to vegetable oils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Consequent upon delicens-